



U.S. Department of Justice

*Charles R. Gross
United States Attorney
Western District of Michigan*

*Republic Bank Building, 2nd Floor
1930 U.S. Hwy. 41 West
Marquette, Michigan 49855*

*Telephone (906) 226-2500
Facsimile (906) 226-3700*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Maarten Vermaat
Assistant United States Attorney
(906) 226-2500

Marquette, MI - July 20, 2007- U.S. Attorney Charles R. Gross announced that on Thursday, July 19, 2007, Jesse Aaron McGraw pled guilty to a charge of Theft of Firearms from a Federal Firearms Licensee, and Jason Tolen pled guilty to a charge of Possession of Stolen Firearms. The guilty pleas were entered in federal court before United States Magistrate Judge Timothy P. Greeley in Marquette, Michigan.

These offenses are violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922, and carry a maximum sentence of up to 10 years' imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000. In addition, McGraw must pay restitution for the damages caused by his theft.

These convictions stem from an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) and the Ishpeming City Police Department. The investigation revealed that McGraw broke into Wilderness Sports, a sporting goods store in Ishpeming, Michigan, on May 10, 2007. He then stole six handguns. Tolen subsequently took possession of these handguns while knowing that they were stolen.

Sentencing is scheduled for October 19, 2007.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Maarten Vermaat prosecuted this case on behalf of the United States.

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